the Government that the indigenous DMT should be used to the maximum extent possible as against the imported PTA, till the production of PTA is established in the country.

Demand of DMT and PTA

1238. SHRI SHANKER SINH VAGHELA:

SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the total capacity granted for production of PFY and PSF is to the tune of 675,000 tonnes per annum in the country during 1986;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the total capacity for the raw materials for PFY and PSF such as DMT and PTA—is 3,39,000 tonnes per annum; and

(c) if so, in which manner this gap is likely to be bridged?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH): (a) and (b) Yes Sir.

(c) Government's policy would be to meet the demands of both DMT and PTA to the extent to which these items are required by the user-industry by suitable measures at the appropriate time.

Working of Lalmatia Mines

1239. SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that about five hundred officers and technical personnel working in Lalmatia Mines in Santhal Pargana, Bihar have threatened to quit *en masse* to save their lives and lives of their families; and

(b) if so, what steps have been taken by Government to ensure the smooth and peaceful running of this project which is supplying coal to Farakka and is expected to feed Kahalgaon?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) Assault on a Medical Officer in July last and some other incidents of intimidation allegedly by certain local activists of the so-called Jharkhand Mukti Morcha created a feeling of insecurity in the officers and other personnel of the mines and projects of ECL in the Santhal Pargana Area. The local branch of the Coal Mines Officers Association of India submitted a representation to reffective action to improve the law and order situation and to ensure peaceful working conditions.

(b) Intensified deployment and patrolling by CISF and more effective police arrangements are the steps taken to improve the situation.

Fund raising by Car Automobile industry

1240. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what is the amount of public money deposited against automobile bookings with the companies, manufacturing cars, scooters and other automobiles as on the 31st October, 1986;

(b) what is the rate of interest paid by the companies to the customers;

(c) whether Government propose to levy stricter norms for such fund raising by the companies to enable the customers to get their due;

(d) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(e) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b) A statement-I I is annexed. (*See below*).

(c) to (e) The advances collected by the manufacturers for supply of their products are not 'deposits' within the meaning of the Companies (Acceptance of Deposits) Rule, 1975 and are not subject to the regulatory provisions of Section 58A of the Companies Act, 1956 and the Deposit Rules. However, Government has prescribed certain guidelines for utilisation of such money by the automobile manufacturers. A copy of the guidelines is at Statement-II.

Statement-I

Advance deposits collected and the rate of interest paid by different automibile manufacturers

(Rs. in lakhs)

Name of manufacturer	Amount	Interest
1. M/s. Maruti Udvog Ltd.	14,256·10 (collected in 1985)	7%
2. M/s. Hindustan Motors Ltd.	97·00 (31-10-86)	7%
3. M/s. Standard Motor Products of India Ltd.	1,523·00	7%
4. M/s. Premier Automobiles Ltd.	9,625·00	7%
5. M/s. Mahindra & Mahindra Ltd.	95·04	12%
6. M/s. Andhra Pradesh Scooters Ltd.	12·00	9%
7. M/s. Lohia Machines Ltd.	7,600.00	9%
8. M/s. Bajaj Auto Ltd.	7,600.03	9%
9. M/s. Hero Honda Motors Ltd.	3,175·00	9%
10. M/s. Escorts Ltd.	223·00	11—12%
11. M/s. Sundaram Clayton	57·06	7%
12. M/s. IND Suzuki Ltd.	780·55	9%
13. M/s. Ashok Layland Ltd.	32·14	12%
14. M/s. Allwyn Nissan Ltd.	89·16	9%
15. M/s. TELCO	133·84 + 33·90*	12+9%
16. M/s. Maharashtra Scooters	4, 200·45	9%
17. M/s. Kinetic Honda Motors	1,198·77 (upto 6th Nov.)	9%

*for new model.

Statement-II

Guidelines for deployment of funds taken by the companies as advance for booking of vehicles

The question of automotive manufacturers accepting deposits as advance for booking of vehicles has been engaging attention of the Government for some time. While these advances may be essentially in the nature of a civil contract, it is not unusual for the depositors to expect a reasonable return in the form of interest and seek reassurance about their deposits even through Government intervention. It is, therefore, essential that amount received from depositors are deployed in a manner which would enable the company to make prompt refunds of the principal amount alongwith the interest. With a view to maintaining adequate security of depositor's money, Government have considered it desirable to prescribe the following guidelines:—

1. Not less than fifty per cent of the deposits received should be deposited with nationalised banks/public sector financial institutions/public sector undertakings/Unit Trust of India and HDFC.

2. The balance amount could be utilised by the company as its working capital or for deposit with private sector companies. However, deposit with the private sector will not be more than twenty five per cent of the total deposits received by the company.

3. The deployment of funds on the above basis will be relatable to the deposits available with the company on 30-6-1984 and at the end of each of the subsequent quarters i.e., 30-6-1984, 30-9-1984 and so on.

4. The minimum interest payable on the deposits should be seven per cent per annum compounded annually.

The Government trusts that automobile manufacturers will take suitable steps for implementation of these guidelines with immediate effect. The position of deposits and their deployment may kindly be reported to the Department of Heavy Industry every quarter i.e., 30-6-1984, 30-9-1984 and so on.

Persons in the waiting lists for LPG connections

1241. DR. MOHD. HASHIM KIDWAI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of persons who got gas connections during the year 1985 and so far in the current year;

(b) the total number of persons in the waiting list as on September 30, 1986; and

(c) by when these persons are likely to get gas connections?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) The number of LPG (domestic) connections released during the years 1985 and 1986 is as follows:

Year	(Lakhs) (approx.)
1985	16.8
1986 (upto Sept. '86)	12.7

(b) 34.2 lakhs approx.

(c) Enrolment and release of new LPG connections is a continuous process and is made under the annual enrolment programme of the oil industry and is determined by augmentation in the availability of LPG, bottling capacity, transportation arrangements and other infrastructure.